

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6038

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 6680

CODEL MIKVA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (MIKVA, ABNER J.)

SUBJ: CODEL MIKVA

REF: BUCH 6624

1. SUMMARY. WE PROPOSE THAT REP MIKVA CONSIDER AN EXCURSION OUT OF BUCHAREST TO EITHER CONSTANTA OR JUDET (COUNTY) PRAHOVA. PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU WILL BE ON VACATION DURING FIRST HALF JANUARY AND UNAVAILABLE FOR MEETING WITH MIKVA END SUMMARY.

2. IN ADDITION TO PROGRAM FOR REP MIKVA OUTLINED REFTL, WE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A SHORT EXCURSION OUT OF BUCHAREST. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RATHER FULL SCHEDULE WE ARE ARRANGING FOR HIM IN BUCHAREST, SUCH AN EXCURSION WOULD HAVE THE ADVANTAGES OF PROVIDING A) EXPOSURE TO JUDET OFFICIALS, B) A VIEW OF ONE OR TWO INDUSTRIAL SITES, AND C) A TASTE OF LIFE OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL. TWO ALTERNATIVES WHICH WE BELIEVE WOULD FIT BEST WITH THE SCOPE AND TIME CONSTRAINTS OF REP MIKVA'S VISIT WOULD BE CONSTANTA OR JUDET PRAHOVA.

3. ALTHOUGH A TRIP TO CONSTANTA WOULD BE MORE TIME
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CONSUMING OF THE TWO, PORT'S EXPANSION PROGRAM, INCLUDING

CONTAINERIZATION AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CANAL TO CONNECT IT TO DANUBE IMPLIES POTENTIAL FOR LARGE COMMERCIAL INVOLVEMENT OF AMERICAN FIRMS. VISIT TO CONSTANTA MIGHT ALSO INCLUDE DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLY DINNER WITH MAYOR TRANDAFIR, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM US.

4. ALTERNATIVELY, A TRIP TO PRAHOVA JUDET WOULD GIVE CONGRESSMAN OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE GENERAL TIRE CORP. ASSISTANCE WITH CONSTRUCTION OF TIRE FACTORY AT FLORESTI, NEAR PLOIESTI, AND TO SPEAK TO AMERICANS ON THE SITE. PLANT VISIT WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A DINNER WITH JUDET OFFICIALS.

5. BOTH CONSTANTA AND PRAHOVA ARE ACCUSTOMED AND WELL EQUIPPED TO HANDLE OFFICIAL VISITORS, AND WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO EXPECT EITHER WOULD ENHANCE REP MIKVA'S UNDERSTANDING OF ROMANIA.

6. GIVEN THAT JAN 1-4 IS HOLIDAY IN ROMANIA WE NEED REP MIKVA'S COMMENTS ON THESE ALTERNATIVES, AS WELL AS THOSE OF PARA 4 REFTTEL, NLT MONDAY.

7. IN MEETING WITH GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (GNA) PROTOCOL OFFICERS TO ARRANGE DETAILS FOR VISIT, EMBOFFS LEARNED THAT ENTIRE POLITICAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TAKES TWO WEEKS VACATION IN JANUARY, HALF FIRST TWO WEEKS, OTHER HALF LAST TWO WEEKS. PRES. CEAUSESCU WILL NOT RPT NOT BE IN BUCHAREST DURING MIKVA'S VISIT, NOR WILL GNA PRESIDENT GIOSAN. OTHER MINISTERIAL LEVEL OFFICIALS MAY ALSO BE AWAY, BUT WE ARE NEVERTHELESS CONFIDENT THAT THERE ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION ON HAND TO MAKE VISIT REWARDING. BARNES

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